



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/337,500	06/22/1999	TOMOHISA YAMAGUCHI	2565-0175P	9078

7590 01/29/2002

Birch Stewart Kolasch & Birch
Post Office Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER

LEE, WENDY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2155

DATE MAILED: 01/29/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/337,500

Applicant(s)

YAMAGUCHI, TOMOHISA

Examiner

Wendy Lee

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

1. Claim 1, 3, 5, 6, 11, 13, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Tock U.S. Patent No. 5,815,718.
2. Referring to Claim 1, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration which is linked through a network comprising: a memory, linked to the network, for memorizing a plurality of function executing modules which execute specific processes (Figure 1 Item 110 and Col. 11 Lines 37-42); a request device which outputs an execution request for executing one of the specific processes to the network (Figure 1 Item 102, Col. 3 lines 52-55); and an execution device for receiving the execution request output from the request device through the network (Col. 3 lines 46-49), acquiring one of the plurality of function executing modules which has a function of realizing the execution request from the memory through the network, and executing an acquired function execution module (Col. 5 lines 20-25).
3. Referring to Claim 3 and 13, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim 1, wherein the execution device stores the acquired function execution module

after the acquired function execution module has been executed (Col. 3, lines 14-17), and re-executes the acquired function execution module stored in the execution device when it is requested to execute a module having a function corresponding to the acquired function execution module. (Random access memory, as known in the art, is organized and controlled in a way that enables data to be stored and retrieved quickly by the computer's processor.)

4. Referring to Claim 5, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim 1, wherein the request device and the memory are installed in a device (Figure 1 Item 100 and Item 102).
5. Referring to Claim 6, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim 1, wherein the request device is a client which outputs a contents request corresponding to the execution request (Figure 1 Item 102 and Col. 3 lines 52-55), the execution device is a server which receives the contents request and responds to the contents request (Figure 1 Item 104 and Col. 4 lines 1-6), and the memory is a module storing server which stores the plurality of function executing modules for responding to the contents request (Figure 1 Item 128 and Col. 11 lines 37-42).
6. Referring to Claim 11, Tock discloses a dynamic module configuration method using a network comprising the steps of memorizing a plurality of function executing modules for executing specific processes (Col. 11 Lines 37-42); outputting an execution request

for executing one of the specific processes to the network; and receiving the execution request through the network, acquiring one of the plurality of function executing modules which has a function of realizing the execution request through the network, and executing an acquired function execution module (Col 3 lines 52-55 and Col 5 lines 20-25).

7. Referring to Claim 15, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration comprising: an internal resource of a device for performing an original function of the device (Col. 11 Lines 37-42); and an execution device for receiving an access request which requests information in the device, acquiring one of a plurality of function execution modules from an external resource, which has a function of realizing the access request, and executing an acquired function execution module, wherein the receiving, acquiring and executing are performed by using a part of the internal resource (Col. 2 lines 53-57 and 65-67).
8. Referring to Claim 16, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim 15, wherein the internal resource includes a central processing unit and a memory (Figure 1 Item 110 and 112), the execution device includes a program stored in the memory and executed by the central processing unit (Figure 1 Item 100), and the external resource includes a memory, being independent of the device, for memorizing the plurality of function execution modules (Figure 1 Item 108).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claim 2 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tock as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Snyder et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,161,147.

11. Referring to Claim 2 and 12, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim 1. However, Tock does not disclose wherein the execution device deletes the acquired function execution module after the acquired function execution module has been executed. Snyder et al. teaches a variety of methods for managing deactivation and deletion of objects and server processes. Further, Snyder discloses a timeout criterion where the deletion of an object or processes takes place if the period of time since the last client requested services from the object is greater than a timeout value (Abstract). The timeout criterion and deletion of the acquired function module, as known in the art, both releases memory and resources thereby improving efficiency and performance of the system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the dynamic module configuration system as

disclosed by Tock to delete the function execution module after execution in order to release resources and improve the efficiency and performance of the system.

12. Claim 4 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tock as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Tao et al. U.S. Patent 6,247,050.

13. Referring to Claim 4 and 14, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim 1. However, Tock does not disclose wherein the memory caches the function execution module acquired by the execution device and provides the function execution module cached in the memory when it is requested to acquire a module, which has a function corresponding to the function execution module cached in the memory, by the execution module. Tao et al. teaches that a server-side cache memory may be used to store both original and transcoded versions of content for later transmission to network client without the need to re-retrieve the content from Internet or to re-transcode the content (Col. 4, lines 32-36). Since the function execution module, as known in the art, is a program or a function, it can also be stored for later transmission to the network client. Memory caching provides more effective and efficient client-server communication because most programs access the same data or functions repeatedly. By keeping as much of this information as possible in static memory, the computer can avoid accessing the slower dynamic memory. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of dynamic

module configuration to cache the function execution module because memory caching provides more effective and efficient client-server communication.

14. Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tock as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kimishima U.S. Patent 5,978,846.

15. Referring to Claim 7, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim 6 wherein the server includes a communication interface (Figure 1 Item 116), a user interface (Figure 1 Item 114) and a processor (Figure 1 Item 112, Processor read as contents-analyzing module and module-executing module). However, Tock does not disclose a system of dynamic module configuration wherein the server is further composed of a contents-request receiving module and module-requesting module.

Kimishima discloses a system wherein the communications interface module specifically includes a contents-request receiving module for receiving the contents request from the client (Figure 1 Item 403, Figure 8 Item S401), a module requesting module for requesting a selected function executing module from the module storing server based on an analyzing result by the contents-request analyzing module (Col. 2 lines 45-49), and for receiving the selected function executing module from the module storing, and a module executing module for executing the selected function executing module received by the module requesting module (Col. 6 lines 37-41, Figure 1 Item 402). Tock fails to mention a contents-request analyzing module for analyzing the contents request received by the contents-request receiving module in order to select one of the plurality of function

executing modules which has a function needed in responding to the contents request.

However, a Java Virtual Machine is deemed to be inherited through the processing of a Java application disclosed by Tock. Java Virtual Machine's main job, as well known in the art, is to interpret, analyze and load the needed class files and execute the bytecodes they contain. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further separate the communications interface into a contents-request receiving module and module requesting module so that both modules can work simultaneously thereby allowing quicker and more efficient processing of information.

16. Referring to Claim 8, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim

7. However Tock does not disclose a system of dynamic module where in the module storing server is composed of a plurality of modules including the module-request receiving module, module acquiring module, and a module transmitting module.

Kimishima discloses a system wherein the module storing server includes a module-request receiving module for receiving a module request from the module requesting module (Figure 1 Item 405), a module acquiring module for acquiring a function executing module out of the plurality of function executing modules based on the module request received by the module-request receiving module (Col. 2 Lines 45-49), and a module transmitting module for transmitting the function executing module acquired by the module acquiring module to the server (Figure 1 Item 402). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further decompose the module storing server as disclosed by Tock to include a plurality

of modules disclosed by Kimishima so that modules can work simultaneously thereby allowing quicker and more efficient processing of information.

17. Referring to Claim 9, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim 7, wherein the server further includes a module storing module for storing the selected function executing module acquired from the module storing server as many as possible in a resource of the server (Col. 3, lines 14-17).
18. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tock as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Kimishima and Tao et al.
19. Referring to Claim 10, Tock discloses a system of dynamic module configuration of claim 8. However, Tock does not disclose wherein the module-storing server further includes a module-caching module for caching the selected function-executing module after the selected function-executing module has been sent to the server. Tao et al. teaches that a server-side cache memory may be used to store both original and transcoded versions of content for later transmission to network client without the need to re-retrieve the content from Internet or to re-transcode the content (Col. 4, 32-36). Since the function execution module, as known in the art, is a program or a function, it can also be stored for later transmission to the network client. Memory caching provides more effective and efficient client-server communication because most programs access the same data or functions repeatedly. By keeping as much of this information as possible in

Art Unit: 2155

static memory, the computer can avoid accessing the slower dynamic memory.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the module-storing server to include a module-caching module because memory caching provides more effective and efficient client-server communication.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wendy Lee whose telephone number is 703-308-9119. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:30am-5:00pm).


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 703-305-9648. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7201 for regular communications and 703-305-7201 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

WJ.

WL

January 15, 2002


DAVID WILEY
PRIMARY EXAMINER